REMARKS

This application, as amended, herein, contains Claims 1-28. Entry of this amendment under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.116 is respectfully requested as it is believed that no new issues are raised.

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hallikainen et al. (WO 95/19096), hereinafter "Hallikainen" . This rejection is respectfully traversed, in that it is believed the Examiner has made a clear mistake in interpreting the reference.

As specifically noted in Claim 5 (not amended herein), Applicants' invention is directed to an electronic device comprising a digital signal processor for processing audio signals, means for storing audio parameters controlling the processing of audio signals in the digital signal processor, and an auxiliary device connection for connecting an auxiliary device with the electronic device. In accordance with Applicants' invention, the electronic device includes means for loading the audio parameters into the means for storing the audio parameters from the auxiliary device.

Method Claim 1 has been amended to insert the words --controlling processing-- after "parameters". Thus, the language of method Claim 1 conforms to that already found in Claim 5, in that the parameters are used to control the processing of audio signals. Hallikainen does not teach or suggest Claims 1 or 5.

What the Examiner has referred to in the reference in Figures 3 and 4 is a simple audio line. This line supplies the actual audio content, for example, speech or other audio signal. It is not an audio parameter as specifically required by Claim 5 and Claim 1. As noted, in the description of this reference found on page 2 of the present specification, in Hallikainen, the processing parameters are stored in the memory of the microprocessor of the device itself. They are not supplied from the auxiliary device. It is the connection of the auxiliary device which causes the appropriate parameters to be read from the memory of the microprocessor of the primary device itself. In this regard, reference is specifically made to page 2, lines 22-30, page 3, lines 9-11 and page 5, lines 1-3 of Hallikainen.

Referring more specifically to Hallikaien et al., the method disclosed therein is based on the fact that the signal levels suitable for the different auxiliary devices have been stored in the mobile station, and when the auxiliary device is coupled to the mobile station, the type of the auxiliary device is identified. Then the mobile station retrieves a value corresponding to the auxiliary device in question from the stored information and adjusts the level of the audio signal accordingly. In Hallikaien et al., it is clear that a predetermined value is used for each auxiliary device, the value being stored in the mobile station. This requires a great deal of storage space for an assortment of auxiliary devices. Further, when a new device is developed the data is not in the mobile phone.

Audio parameters which control processing are also not loaded by the hook line of Hallikainen. The hook line is simply used to identify the auxiliary device and to decide which parameters stored in the memory of the processor of the mobile phone are to be selected for use. See Hallikainen, page 3, lines 26 to 38 and page 4, lines 14 to 16.

It is respectfully submitted that it is apparent that the Examiner is confusing the audio parameters which control processing of audio signals with the audio signals themselves. In Applicants' invention, as set forth in Claims 1 and 5, the audio parameters which control the processing are loaded from the auxiliary device to the signal processing unit. This provides a clear advantage over the prior art in that it is possible to set the audio properties of the electronic device to be compatible with an auxiliary device which is already in use. Further, when additional auxiliary devices are introduced, they will store their own parameters which will be loaded from these new auxiliary devices. This permits a great deal of flexibility in that audio processing parameters such as amplification factor, frequency response, etc., can be loaded from the auxiliary device. These processing parameters are not known in advance for future devices, and a replacement of the memory of the microprocessor (and therefore a replacement of the microprocessor itself) of Hallikainen would be required. However, in sharp contrast to this situation, in accordance with the present invention, since the parameters are loaded from the auxiliary device itself, no such change is required when a new auxiliary device is introduced.

In summary, the audio line in the prior art is not used to transmit parameters which control the processing of the audio, but is used to transmit the actual audio itself. It is not possible to load, from the auxiliary device, the parameters which control processing for two reasons. First, in Hallikainen, it is the audio itself which is sent along the audio line. Second, in Hallikainen, the parameters are stored in the mobile phone, and not in the auxiliary device. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner is mistaken in the assertion that the audio line is used for loading the audio parameters in Hallikainen. The audio line in Hallikainen is simply a connection for supplying the actual audio (that which is being processed), which may be very different and will vary, depending upon, for example, what is being said. This has nothing whatsoever to do with the audio parameters which are used to control the processing.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1 and 5 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Hallikainen.

With regard to Claims 11 and 13, the Examiner is simply incorrect. These claims recite that all of the audio parameters are loaded into the digital processor from the auxiliary device. It is plainly clear that in Hallikainen, the audio parameters are not loaded from the auxiliary device, but are loaded from the memory of the microprocessor in the primary device (mobile telephone).

Thus, it is submitted that Claims 11 and 13 are also clearly patentably distinguishable from Hallikainen et al.

Claim 14-17, 23, 24 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hallikainen et al. Claims 18-22, 25, 26 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hallikainen et al. further in view of Malvino et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 14 and 18 have been amended herein to state that the writable mass storage is separate from the processor 4. This is in sharp contrast to Hallikainen, were it is the memory of the MCU that stores the audio parameters that are used to control the processing. Thus, in Hallikainen it would be necessary to replace the microprocessor in order to store additional parameters for new auxiliary devices. In accordance with Applicants' invention, as set forth in Claims 14 and 18, it would at most be necessary to replace the writable mass storage, such as a removable memory chip or a card, in order to update the stored audio parameters so as to accommodate new devices. Hallikainen et al. does not teach or suggest Applicants' invention as set forth in Claims 14 and 18. Accordingly, it is submitted that Claims 14-17, 23, 24 and 27 as well as Claims 18-22, 25, 26 and 28 are directed to patentable subject matter.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved

issue remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' Attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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